

What we claim as our invention is:

1. An optical connector cleaning device for cleaning a ferrule end surface of an optical connector comprising:
  - a cleaning rod;
  - a cleaning media connected to an end of the cleaning rod, where the cleaning media has a thickness past the end of the cleaning rod of at least about 0.125 inches;
  - a drive mechanism operatively coupled to the cleaning rod to impart mechanical motion to the cleaning rod.
2. The device of claim 1, further comprising:
  - a mating connector housing the cleaning rod without being operatively coupled to the drive mechanism.
3. The device of claim 1, further comprising:
  - a resilient member coupled to the cleaning rod and biasing the cleaning rod in a direction along the main axis of the cleaning rod and towards the end of the cleaning rod having the cleaning media.
4. The device of claim 1, wherein the cleaning media has a thickness past the end of the cleaning rod of between about 0.125 inches and about 0.5 inches.
5. The device of claim 1, wherein the cleaning media is a swab.
6. The device of claim 4, wherein the cleaning media is a swab.
7. The device of claim 1, wherein the cleaning media is a brush.
8. The device of claim 4, wherein the cleaning media is a brush.
9. The device of claim 1, wherein the cleaning media is a pad.
10. The device of claim 4, wherein the cleaning media is a pad.

11. The device of claim 1, wherein the cleaning media is a foam.
12. The device of claim 4, wherein the cleaning media is a foam.
13. The device of claim 1, wherein the drive mechanism is an electric drive mechanism.
14. The device of claim 1, wherein the drive mechanism is a pneumatic drive mechanism.
15. The device of claim 3, wherein the resilient member comprises a mechanical spring.
16. The device of claim 3, wherein the resilient member comprises a hydraulic spring.
17. The device of claim 1, further comprising:  
a dummy card connector on which the drive mechanism is mounted and the cleaning rod is coupled, wherein the dummy card connector is physically compatible with a slot in a card-cage.
18. The device of claim 17 wherein the dummy card connector comprises an adjustable frame which may be adjusted to modify card size in at least one direction in order for the same dummy card connector to be physically compatible with more than one physical slot configuration.
19. The device of claim 1, further comprising:  
a handheld body housing the drive mechanism.
20. The device of claim 1, wherein the mechanical motion the drive mechanism is operatively coupled to the cleaning rod to impart comprises rotary motion.
21. The device of claim 1, wherein the mechanical motion the drive mechanism is operatively coupled to the cleaning rod to impart comprises oscillating linear motion.

22. An optical connector cleaner device for cleaning a ferrule end surface of an optical connector comprising:

a cleaning rod;

a cleaning media connected to an end of the cleaning rod;

a drive mechanism operatively coupled to the cleaning rod to impart rotary motion to the cleaning rod.

23. The device of claim 22, further comprising:

a mating connector housing the cleaning rod without being operatively coupled to the drive mechanism.

24. The device of claim 22, further comprising:

a resilient member coupled to the cleaning rod and biasing the cleaning rod in a direction along the main axis of the cleaning rod and towards the end of the cleaning rod having the cleaning media.

25. The device of claim 22, wherein the cleaning media is a swab.

26. The device of claim 22, wherein the cleaning media is a brush.

27. The device of claim 22, wherein the cleaning media is a pad.

28. The device of claim 22, wherein the cleaning media is a foam.

29. The device of claim 22, wherein the drive mechanism is an electric drive mechanism.

30. The device of claim 22, wherein the drive mechanism is a pneumatic drive mechanism.

31. The device of claim 24, wherein the resilient member comprises a mechanical spring.

32. The device of claim 24, wherein the resilient member comprises a hydraulic spring.

33. The device of claim 22, further comprising:  
a dummy card connector on which the drive mechanism is mounted and the cleaning rod is coupled, wherein the dummy card connector is physically compatible with a slot in a card-cage.

34. The device of claim 33 wherein the dummy card connector comprises an adjustable frame which may be adjusted to modify card size in at least one direction in order for the same dummy card connector to be physically compatible with more than one physical slot configuration.

35. The device of claim 22, further comprising:  
a handheld body housing the drive mechanism.

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